

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended):

A data communication system comprising:

a main station;

one or more substations, each of which is connected to said main station by a common transmission line;

a data transmitter means for transmitting which transmits data address to all of said one or more substations, provided in said the main station;

a data receiver means for receiving which receives said data, provided in said one or more the substations;

a message transmitter means for transmitting which transmits a message addressed to all of said one or more substations after said data are transmitted, to inquire whether reception was normal, provided in said main station; and

a response transmitter means for transmitting which transmits a carrier as a response message to said query message, only when said data could not be received normally, provided in said one or more substations.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended):

The data communication system, according to Claim 1, wherein said main station receives said carrier response message within a prescribed period of time after the transmission of said query message.

Claim 3 (Original): The data communication system, according to Claim 2, wherein said prescribed period of time is the period until the time to start the next transmission of said data.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The data communication system, according to Claim 2, wherein said main station determines that all of said one or more substations were able to receive said data normally, when said main station does not receive said carrier response message within said prescribed period of time.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The data communication system, according to Claim 4, wherein said main station effects the next data transmission when said carrier response message is not received within said prescribed period of time.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The data communication system, according to Claim 2, wherein said main station determines that any of said one or more substations was unable to receive said data normally, when said main station receives said carrier response message within said prescribed period of time.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The data communication system, according to Claim 6, wherein said main station re-transmits said data when said carrier response message is received within said prescribed period of time.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The data communication system, according to Claim 7, wherein said main station terminates the transmission of said data and effects the transmission of next data when said carrier response message is received after the same data have been transmitted a prescribed number of times.

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Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The data communication system, according to Claim 8, wherein said main station changes ~~comprises means for changing~~ said prescribed number of times.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The data communication system, according to Claim 1, wherein said one or more substations, when said normally received data are received once more, scrap these data.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The data communication system, according to Claim 1, wherein said one or more substations, when said data that could not be normally received are received once more, take up these data.

Claim 12 (Cancelled).

Claim 13 (Cancelled).